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6 Attorney for Counterclaim Defendants,
7 HIGBEE & ASSOCIATES AND
MATHEW K. HIGBEE

8 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
9 **DISTRICT OF NEVADA**
10 **LAS VEGAS DIVISION**

11 ROBERT MILLER,

12 Plaintiff,

13 v.

14 4INTERNET, LLC; and DOES 1 through
10 inclusive,

15 Defendants.
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Case No. 2:18-cv-02097-JAD-VCF

**NOTICE OF MOTION AND
MOTION TO FOR ATTORNEY'S
FEES BY HIGBEE & ASSOCIATES
AND MATHEW K. HIGBEE**

1 TO ALL PARTIES AND THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD:

2 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that 28 U.S.C. § 1927, Counterclaim Defendants Higbee
3 & Associates and Mathew K. Higbee¹ hereby move for an award of attorney's fees
4 in the amount of \$24,320, jointly and severally against 4Internet, LLC's counsel,
5 Ryan L. Isenberg, Isenberg & Hewitt, P.C., Troy L. Issacson, and Maddox,
6 Issacson & Cisneros, LLC.

7 A court may impose sanctions on any attorney who unreasonably and
8 vexatiously multiplies legal proceedings. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1927. Plaintiff Robert
9 Miller initiated this case by filing a straightforward claim against 4Internet, LLC for
10 copyright infringement of a photograph. Rather than defend the copyright claim in
11 good faith, 4Internet and its counsel decided to personally sue Miller's attorney, for
12 various causes of action related to computer fraud. As a result of this vexatious
13 multiplication of these proceedings, H&A was forced to incur substantial fees
14 mounting a successful defense.

15 This Motion is based on this Notice of Motion, the attached memorandum of
16 points and authorities, the declaration of Ryan E. Carreon, and the pleadings, files
17 and other materials that are on file with the Court or may be presented at the
18 hearing.

19
20 Dated: July 19, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

21 /s/ Ryan E. Carreon
22 Ryan E. Carreon, Esq.
23 *Pro Hac Vice*
24 **HIGBEE & ASSOCIATES**
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¹ This Motion does not include Plaintiff and Counter Defendant Robert Miller or Counter Defendant Christopher Sadowski.

MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

I. INTRODUCTION

In 2018, Plaintiff Robert Miller (“Miller”) filed a simple case against Defendant 4Internet, LLC (“4Internet”) asserting a single claim of copyright infringement arising out of a use of one of his photographs. Rather than mount a good faith defense against Miller’s straight forward copyright claim, 4Internet elected to employ a “scorched earth” litigation strategy asserting counterclaims against Miller’s counsel, Mathew K. Higbee and Higbee & Associates (collectively “H&A”), for allegedly violating the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act (“CFAA”) and Georgia Computer Systems Protection Act (“GCSPA”).

Despite claiming to have a meritorious legal theory, a significant portion of 4Internet’s Counterclaims and subsequent filings were devoted to irrelevant *ad hominem* attacks against H&A in a thinly veiled attempt to use the judicial process harass and embarrass H&A. After successfully delaying these proceedings for nearly a year and a half, 4Internet’s frivolous claims were dismissed with prejudice after this Court recognized that despite an opportunity to amend, “4Internet does not actually allege that [H&A] caused its server to malfunction.” Dkt. #47, p. 4.

Now that a final judgment has been entered, H&A can file the instant motion to recover the substantial expense it incurred as a result of 4Internet’s frivolous filings.

A. Procedural Background

Miller’s original complaint filed in this action alleged that 4Internet infringed one of his photographs by displaying it on the websites are www.4jewish.com and www.4rightwing.com. Dkt. #1. On March 5, 2019, 4Internet filed a Counterclaim against Miller², fellow photographer Christopher Sadowski, and their attorney H&A.

² Although Miller was named as a counterclaim defendant and numerous allegations were made against him in the pleading, none of the three causes of action raised by 4Internet appear to have been asserted against Miller in the original Counterclaim.

1 Dkt. #19. As relevant here, 4Internet alleged that H&A used a third-party service
 2 called “Copypants” to search its website to find infringements at the direction of
 3 H&A and that this spike in traffic caused its server to crash and violated the CFAA
 4 and GCSPA. Dkt. #9, ¶¶ 39-49.

5 Despite limiting its Counterclaims against H&A to allegedly crashing
 6 4Internet’s server, 4Internet’s pleading contained numerous libelous accusations
 7 levied against H&A that were irrelevant to the Counterclaims. For example, 4Internet
 8 alleged that H&A had “conspired” with Miller and Sadowski to “engage[] in
 9 []unlawful acts” for the purpose of “manufacturing the instant action” (Dkt. #9, ¶ 13);
 10 that H&A “have staff who use consumer debt collection tactics to call and harass
 11 potential defendants for the purpose of extorting money from parties who may or
 12 may not have infringed on a photograph” (Dkt. #9, ¶ 28); that “H&A have filed 99
 13 copyright lawsuits in the past three years with 13 filed on behalf of Sadowski and 3
 14 filed on behalf of Miller” (Dkt. #9, ¶ 34); that H&A’s “business model involves
 15 getting settlements from defendants in amounts that are not worth defending and
 16 obtaining default judgments against parties who do not respond” (Dkt. #9, ¶ 36); that
 17 H&A is a “copyright troll” (Dkt. #9, ¶ 37); and that H&A engages in “legalized
 18 extortion” (Dkt. #9, ¶ 38).

19 These allegations served no purpose to 4Internet’s CFAA and GCSPA claims.

20 On May 7, 2019, H&A filed a Motion to Dismiss the Counterclaims. Dkt. #25.
 21 As part of its Motion, H&A provided sworn testimony stating that it had ceased using
 22 Copypants prior to the creation of Miller’s photograph, and that Copypants had been
 23 out of business prior to the discovery of 4Internet’s infringement. Dkt. 25-2, ¶¶ 7-8.
 24 H&A provided further sworn testimony that Eugene Sadowski, and not Copypants,
 25 had actually discovered Miller’s photograph on the 4Internet website via a manual
 26 image search. Dkt. #25-1.

27 On June 7, 2019, 4Internet filed an Opposition. In its Opposition, 4Internet
 28 speculated for the first time that a company called ImageDefenders, which was co-

owned by counterclaim defendant Higbee, could have possibly caused the alleged outage rather than Copypants. Dkt. #35, p. 11. 4Internet further postulated that “reverse image search is being used to generate enough copyright claims for Higbee & Associates to generate over \$100,000 PER DAY.” Dkt. #35, p. 12 (emphasis in original). 4Internet further opined that Miller, Sadowski and H&A “use the courts as their personal ATM, generating astonishing revenues based on what are almost certainly frivolous claims.” Dkt. #35, pp. 12-13.

On January 8, 2020, the Court dismissed the counterclaims asserted against H&A. In its Order, the Court noted that the binding Ninth Circuit case *hiQ Labs, Inc. v. LinkedIn Corporation*, 938 F.3d 985, 999 (9th Cir. 2019) has interpreted the phrase “without authorization” in the CFAA to prohibit conduct that is analogous to ““breaking and entering”” and has applied it to only “information [that is] delineated as private through use of a permission requirement of some sort.” Dkt. #39, p. 12. The Court ultimately concluded that 4Internet has not plausibly shown that its alleged harm was caused by H&A’s alleged conduct but granted leave to amend in case the deficiency could be corrected. Dkt. #39, p. 12.

On January 19, 2020, 4Internet filed an Amended Counterclaim again asserting that H&A had violated the CFAA and GCSPA and also asserting a third claim against H&A for conspiracy. Dkt. #40. In its Amended Counterclaim, 4Internet doubled down many of its most heavy accusations accusing H&A of “conspire[ing] ... to engage in [] unlawful acts ... for the purposes of manufacturing the instant action” (Dkt. #40, ¶ 6); alleged that during its relationship with Copypants, H&A continued to use the Copypants software and “changed or obscured its user agent, acquired the Copypants software, or developed similar software” (Dkt. #40, ¶ 30, 51); alleged that the Copypants software could be “used nefariously ... to post links to images in [sic] a website without the website owner’s knowledge or permission” which is conceded was not at issue in this case (Dkt. #40, ¶ 28 fn. 2); implied that Mathew Higbee perjured himself in his declaration (Dkt. #40, ¶¶ 66-67); alleged that

1 “H&A have filed 99 copyright lawsuits in the past three years with 13 filed on behalf
2 of Sadowski and 3 filed on behalf of Miller” (Dkt. #40, ¶ 98); and alleged that
3 H&A’s “business model involves getting settlements from defendants in amounts that
4 are not worth defending and obtaining default judgments against parties who do not
5 respond” (Dkt. #40, ¶ 100).

6 Remarkably, despite its accusations, 4Internet also admitted in its pleading that
7 it received a query from an IP address in New Jersey, the same day that Eugene
8 Sadowski, a New Jersey resident, claimed to have performed his manual image
9 search and discovered Miller’s photograph. Dkt. #40, ¶¶ 101-104.

10 On February 9, 2020, H&A filed a motion to dismiss the amended
11 counterclaims. Dkt. #41. On February 21, 2020, 4Internet filed its Opposition. Dkt.
12 #43. Predictably, 4Internet continued its barrage of unfounded attacks on H&A which
13 included accusing H&A of making “several material misrepresentations to this
14 Court” (Dkt. #43, p. 3, fn. 2); stating that “[g]iven the trollish behavior of these
15 Counterclaim Defendants, it is more likely they are just looking for any display of
16 seeded photographs without regard to copyrightability or infringement” (Dkt. #43, p.
17 8, fn. 29); asserting that the previously filed declaration of Mathew Higbee was
18 “word-smithed” to give a false impression to the Court (Dkt. #43, p. 12, fn. 40);
19 claiming that H&A “victim blame[d] 4Internet” and acted with “deliberate
20 indifference” as to H&A’s actions (Dkt. #43, p. 12); and belittling the educational
21 qualifications of H&A employee Jason Dora who submitted a declaration (Dkt. #43,
22 p. 15).

23 On July 10, 2020, nearly a year and a half after 4Internet first filed its
24 Counterclaim, the Court dismissed the Counterclaims against H&A with prejudice.
25 Dkt. #47. The Court noted that the allegations in 4Internet’s Amended Counterclaim
26 were “not clear” and that 4Internet only identified one visit to its website that
27 occurred after it allegedly notified H&A, and that “4Internet does not actually allege
28

1 that this visit caused its server to malfunction” but instead relied upon a “blurry
2 screenshot.” Dkt. #47, p. 4.

3 The Court also noted that 4Internet’s pleading had not overcome the binding
4 authority outlined by Ninth Circuit in *hiQ Labs, Inc.* Dkt. #47, pp. 6-8. The Court
5 specifically noted that “4Internet’s counterclaim amounts not to breaking and
6 entering, but to a violation of its website’s terms of use, which the Ninth Circuit has
7 repeatedly stated “cannot [alone] establish liability under the CFAA.” Dkt. #47, p. 8
8 (emphasis added). The Court also noted that 4Internet’s letter to H&A failed to
9 satisfy any element of the test used to show that access to its site was revoked. Dkt.
10 #47, p. 8. The Court subsequently dismissed the counterclaims against H&A with
11 prejudice. Dkt. #47.

12 Subsequently, a final judgment of the case was not entered until July 5, 2022.
13 See Dkt. #118.

14 **I. 4INTERNET’S COUNTERCLAIM VEXATIONOUSLY MULTIPLIED** 15 **THESE PROCEEDINGS THROUGH BAD FAITH ALLEGATIONS**

16 **A. Legal Standard**

17 A court may require any attorney who unreasonably and vexatiously multiplies
18 legal proceedings to pay the opposing parties’ fees and costs. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1927.
19 As a penal statute, section 1927 discourages unnecessary delays in litigation by
20 requiring the offending party to compensate other litigants for costs due to the
21 dilatory conduct. *See Roadway Express, Inc. v. Piper*, 447 U.S. 752, 759-60 (1980).

22 A “vexatious” multiplication of the proceedings occurs when the party acts
23 recklessly, plus “something more,” such as frivolousness, harassment, or an improper
24 purpose. *Fink v. Gomez*, 239 F.3d 989, 993-94 (9th Cir. 2001) ([R]ecklessness
25 suffices for § 1927); *see B.K.B. v. Maui Police Dep’t*, 276 F.3d 1091, 1107 (9th Cir.
26 2002) (finding recklessness plus knowledge sufficient for section 1927 sanctions);
27 *Rodriguez v. United States*, 542 F.3d 704, 709 (9th Cir. 2008) (“An award of
28 attorney’s fees is justified when reckless conduct is ‘combined with an additional

1 factor such as frivolousness, harassment, or an improper purpose.”). Similarly, the
 2 Court may find bad faith under Section 1927 either when subjective bad faith is
 3 present or when “an attorney knowingly or recklessly raises a frivolous argument or
 4 argues a meritorious claim for the purpose of harassing an opponent.” *Blixseth v.*
 5 *Yellowstone Mountain Club, LLC*, 796 F.3d 1004, 1007 (9th Cir. 2015).

6 **B. H&A’s Motion Is Timely**

7 Rule 54 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure governs the timing of a motion
 8 for attorneys’ fees. The Rule states that a motion for fees must be made “no later than
 9 14 days after the entry of judgment.” Fed. R. Civ. Proc. 54(d)(2)(B)(ii). As to what
 10 constitutes “entry of judgment” the Rule clarifies that when an action presents more
 11 than one claim for relief—whether as a claim, counterclaim, crossclaim, or third-
 12 party claim—or when multiple parties are involved, “any order or other decision,
 13 however designated, that adjudicates fewer than all the claims or the rights and
 14 liabilities of fewer than all the parties does not end the action” unless the court
 15 specifically directs a judgment to be entered on those claims or parties prior to a final
 16 resolution of the case. Fed. R. Civ. Proc. 54(b).

17 In this case, the Court dismissed the counterclaims asserted against H&A with
 18 prejudice in an Order on July 10, 2020 but did not direct that a judgment be entered
 19 on those counterclaims. Dkt. 47. Thus, the July 10, 2020 Order was not a “judgment”
 20 for purposes of Rule 54 because it “adjudicate[d] fewer than all the claims or the
 21 rights and liabilities of fewer than all the parties.” Fed. R. Civ. Proc. 54(b). Indeed, a
 22 final judgment of the case was not entered until July 5, 2022. *See* Dkt. #118.

23 Because this Motion is brought within 14 days of the entry of final judgment, it is
 24 timely.

25 **C. The Counterclaims Vexatiously Multiplied These Proceedings**

26 It is abundantly clear that 4Internet’s Counterclaims substantially multiplied
 27 these proceedings. Nearly two years passed between when Miller filed his original
 28 complaint and when the Counterclaims against H&A were finally resolved. Indeed,

1 after 4Internet's first two Counterclaims asserted under the CFAA and GCSPA
 2 against H&A were dismissed, 4Internet not only doubled down on its original failed
 3 Counterclaims but added a third Counterclaim for Conspiracy.

4 The litigation and resolution of the original and amended Counterclaims
 5 required the expenditure of significant resources both by H&A and the Court.
 6 Furthermore, the litigation added approximately two years to what was otherwise a
 7 simple copyright infringement case.

8 It is also clear that 4Internet's conduct was reckless and improperly motivated.
 9 Courts have previously confronted the issue of a litigant electing to sue his
 10 opponent's attorney with some courts imposing a prohibition on lodging a
 11 counterclaim against opposing counsel during an ongoing proceeding. *See Badger*
 12 *Cab Co., v. Soule*, 492 N.W.2d 375, 60 (Wis. Ct. App. 1992); *see also Malec*
 13 *Holdings II Ltd. v. English*, 217 Fed. Appx. 527, 530 (7th Cir. 2007) (citing *Badger*
 14 *Cab*) (vacating and remanding District Court decision ordering that the lower court
 15 consider Rule 11 Sanctions for filing counterclaims against opposing counsel). The
 16 very first danger sought to be avoided by the *Badger Cab* rule is that "[a]llowing
 17 counterclaims against opposing counsel could create a conflict of interest which
 18 would require a substitution of counsel." *Badger Cab*, 492 N.W.2d 375 at 760 (citing
 19 *Babb v. Superior Court of Sonoma County*, 479 P.2d 379, 382 (Cal. 1971); *Lydon v.*
 20 *Shaw*, 372 N.E.2d 685, 688 (Ill. Ct. App. 1978)). The court warned that
 21 counterclaims against opposing counsel "could become potent 'dilatory and harassing
 22 devices' which could 'deter poor plaintiffs from asserting bona fide claims' due to
 23 the additional risk and expense." *Id.* at 760 (citing *Babb*, 479 P.2d at 382-83).
 24 Furthermore, the court expressed serious concern "about the negative effect of these
 25 counterclaims on the attorney-client privilege and work product immunity, both
 26 critical to effective advocacy." *Ibid*; *see also Riddle & Assocs., P.C. v. Kelly*, 414
 27 F.3d 832, 837 (7th Cir. 2005) ("[W]e find that a reasonably careful attorney should
 28

1 have known that the counterclaim against Ross & Hardies was without merit. The
 2 claim multiplied the proceedings unreasonably and vexatiously.”).

3 Here, the reckless nature of the Counterclaim and Amended Counterclaim is
 4 apparent on its face. Rather than simply respond and defend to Miller’s straight
 5 forward claim of infringement, 4Internet elected to employ a “scorched earth”
 6 litigation strategy by suing Miller’s counsel for the apparent purpose of trying to
 7 appear “aggressive” in a vain attempt to bully H&A³ into dropping the case. Indeed,
 8 while Miller was nominally named as a counterclaim defendant, the original
 9 Counterclaim did not actually assert a cause of action against him, and instead
 10 focused primarily on H&A. There does not appear to be a good faith reason for
 11 4Internet to respond to Miller’s copyright claim by suing his counsel.

12 In addition to being reckless, 4Internet’s claim was also frivolous. In its
 13 original Order dismissing the Counterclaims against H&A the Court noted that
 14 binding Ninth Circuit case *hiQ Labs, Inc.* clearly foreclosed 4Internet’s CFAA and
 15 GCSPA. The Court did ultimately grant leave to amend, however it was not because
 16 the Court believed the claims had merit. Rather, the Court opined that 4Internet’s
 17 pleadings were unclear and given 4Internet’s apparent attempt to clarify its factual
 18 allegations in its Opposition, the Court granted leave to amend. *See* Dkt. #39, p. 13
 19 (“4Internet does not allege when its server was crippled, and it is not clear from this
 20 record whether that occurred only once or more than once. 4Internet does not allege
 21 what steps it took, if any, to protect its fledgling search engine from more than
 22 ‘minimal internet traffic.’ ... Nor does it allege facts to show that the counterclaim
 23 defendants exclusively or typically used Copyants to search for infringing
 24 photographs or were the exclusive or majority users of Copyants’s service whenever
 25 the server was disabled.”).

26
 27
 28 ³ Ironically, since H&A was merely the law firm retained by Miller to bring the infringement
 claim, under the rules of professional conduct Miller, and not H&A, had sole discretion as to
 whether to dismiss his infringement case.

1 Even after give the chance to correct the deficiencies, 4Internet's Amended
 2 Counterclaim were again summarily dismissed – and it wasn't even a close call. The
 3 Court noted that the allegations in 4Internet's Amended Counterclaim were “not
 4 clear” and that 4Internet only identified one visit to its website that occurred after it
 5 allegedly notified H&A, and that “4Internet does not actually allege that this visit
 6 caused its server to malfunction” but instead relied upon a “blurry screenshot.” Dkt.
 7 #47, p. 4. Indeed, The Court also noted that 4Internet's letter to H&A failed to satisfy
 8 any element of the test used to show that access to its site was revoked. Dkt. #47, p.
 9 8.

10 The Court also noted that 4Internet's pleading had not overcome the binding
 11 authority outlined by Ninth Circuit in *hiQ Labs, Inc.* and reaffirmed in subsequent
 12 cases. Dkt. #47, pp. 6-8. The Court specifically noted that “4Internet's counterclaim
 13 amounts not to breaking and entering, but to a violation of its website's terms of use,
 14 which the Ninth Circuit has *repeatedly* stated “cannot [alone] establish liability under
 15 the CFAA.” Dkt. #47, p. 8 (emphasis added).

16 Further demonstrating the frivolous nature of 4Internet's Amended
 17 Counterclaim, is the evidence provided by H&A on its original Motion to Dismiss.
 18 As part of its Motion, H&A provided sworn testimony stating that it had ceased using
 19 Copypants prior to the creation of Miller's photograph, and that Copypants had been
 20 out of business prior to the discovery of 4Internet's infringement. Dkt. 25-2, ¶¶ 7-8.
 21 H&A provided further sworn testimony that Eugene Sadowski, and not Copypants,
 22 had actually discovered Miller's photograph on the 4Internet website via a manual
 23 image search. Dkt. #25-1.

24 Remarkably, 4Internet admitted in its pleading that it received a query from an
 25 IP address in New Jersey the same day that Eugene Sadowski, a New Jersey resident,
 26 claimed to have performed his manual image search and discovered Miller's
 27 photograph. Dkt. #40, ¶¶ 101-104. Despite acknowledging the clear evidence refuting
 28 its theory in its pleadings, 4Internet attempted to side-step these facts by alleging in

1 its Counterclaim that H&A somehow “changed or obscured its user agent, acquired
2 the Copypants software, or developed similar software.” Dkt. #40, ¶ 30, 51.

3 Thus, it is clear that 4Internet’s Counterclaim and particularly its Amended
4 Counterclaim asserted knowingly frivolous causes of action against H&A.

5 Finally, 4Internet’s conducts was clearly harassing and improperly motivated.
6 As noted above, 4Internet’s Counterclaim, Amended Counterclaim, and Opposition
7 documents contained numerous *ad hominem* attacks levied against H&A that served
8 no purpose in advancing its legal theory.

9 For example, 4Internet alleged that H&A had “conspired” with Miller and
10 Sadowski to “engage[] in []unlawful acts” for the purpose of “manufacturing the
11 instant action” (Dkt. #9, ¶ 13; Dkt. #40, ¶ 6); that H&A “have staff who use
12 consumer debt collection tactics to call and harass potential defendants for the
13 purpose of extorting money from parties who may or may not have infringed on a
14 photograph” (Dkt. #9, ¶ 28); that “H&A have filed 99 copyright lawsuits in the past
15 three years with 13 filed on behalf of Sadowski and 3 filed on behalf of Miller” (Dkt.
16 #9, ¶ 34; Dkt. #40, ¶ 98); that H&A’s “business model involves getting settlements
17 from defendants in amounts that are not worth defending and obtaining default
18 judgments against parties who do not respond” (Dkt. #9, ¶ 36; Dkt. #40, ¶ 100); that
19 H&A is a “copyright troll⁴” (Dkt. #9, ¶ 37); that H&A engages in “legalized

20
21 ⁴ The term “copyright troll” is not a legal term of art used in the Copyright Act or in any
22 other Congressional statute or Federal rule, and H&A does not properly fit the accepted definition
23 of a “copyright troll.”

24 Courts have generally defined a “copyright troll” as a non-content producing person or
25 entity whose business model exists solely of acquiring third-party intellectually property rights for
26 purposes of asserting claims of dubious merit in order to procure settlements. *See Malibu Media, LLC v. Does*, 950 F. Supp. 2d 779, 780 n.1 (E.D. Pa. 2013) (Defining “copyright troll” as a “a
27 non-producer [of content] who merely has acquired the right to bring lawsuits against alleged
28 infringers, and observing that “[m]any internet blogs commenting on this and related cases ignore
the rights of copyright owners to sue for infringement, and inappropriately belittle efforts of
copyright owners to seek injunctions and damages.”); *Minden Pictures, Inc. v. John Wiley & Sons, Inc.*, 2014 WL 1724478, at *8 (N.D. Cal. Apr. 29, 2014) (stating that labeling plaintiff as a
copyright troll “unhelpful and slightly disingenuous” and observing that “it is not the purpose of
the Copyright Act to deter litigants from bringing potentially meritorious claims, even though
those claims may be ultimately unsuccessful.”) (quotation and citation omitted).

4Internet’s use of the term “copyright troll” is misplaced if not wholly irrelevant. H&A is
a law firm, not a content creator or plaintiff in a copyright lawsuit and thus labeling it a “troll” for

1 extortion” (Dkt. #9, ¶ 38); that H&A continued to use the Copypants software and
 2 “changed or obscured its user agent, acquired the Copypants software, or developed
 3 similar software” (Dkt. #40, ¶ 30, 51); that the Copypants software could be “used
 4 nefariously ... to post links to images in [sic] a website without the website owner’s
 5 knowledge or permission” which is conceded was not at issue in this case (Dkt. #40,
 6 ¶ 28 fn. 2); that Mathew Higbee impliedly perjured himself in his declaration (Dkt.
 7 #40, ¶¶ 66-67); that Miller, Sadowski and H&A “use the courts as their personal
 8 ATM, generating astonishing revenues based on what are almost certainly frivolous
 9 claims;” (Dkt. #35, pp. 12-13); that H&A of allegedly made “several material
 10 misrepresentations to this Court” (Dkt. #43, p. 3, fn. 2); that “[g]iven the trollish
 11 behavior of these Counterclaim Defendants, it is more likely they are just looking for
 12 any display of seeded photographs without regard to copyrightability or
 13 infringement” (Dkt. #43, p. 8, fn. 29); that the previously filed declaration of Mathew
 14 Higbee was “word-smithed” to give a false impression to the Court (Dkt. #43, p. 12,
 15 fn. 40); that H&A “victim blame[d] 4Internet” and acted with “deliberate
 16 indifference” as to H&A’s actions (Dkt. #43, p. 12); and belittling the educational
 17 qualifications of H&A employee Jason Dora who submitted a declaration (Dkt. #43,
 18 p. 15).

19 Aside from their lack of merit, none of these statements had any bearing on
 20 4Internet’s theories of liability. Rather, their inclusion in pleadings and briefs was
 21 wholly gratuitous and demonstrate that 4Internet’s primary motivation was to harass
 22 and belittle H&A rather than to advance any viable legal theory.

23 Thus, the record undoubtedly establishes that 4Internet vexatiously multiplied
 24 these proceedings through its frivolous and improperly motivated claims asserted

25 simply doing what law firms routinely do, *i.e.* filing and litigating cases in its chosen field of
 26 practice, is disingenuous and not germane to any issues in this case. H&A makes no apologies
 27 about the fact that it specializes in copyright infringement litigation or that it has successfully
 28 handled a wide variety of infringement claims for hundreds of clients. The fact that it has chosen
 to specialize in copyright infringement litigation, and that it has found success in doing so, does
 not suggest any improper motivation in bringing this lawsuit, but is merely an indication of its
 strong reputation as a trusted and zealous advocate for content creators.

1 against H&A. As such, 4Internet's counsel should be ordered to pay H&A's
2 reasonable attorneys' fees spent in litigating the Counterclaim.

3 **III. H&A INCURRED \$24,320 IN REASONABLE FEES**

4 After 4Internet asserted its counterclaims against H&A the task of research
5 and preparing a response was delegated to associates Ryan E. Carreon and Saba A.
6 Basria. Declaration of Ryan E. Carreon ("Carreon Decl.") ¶ 3. Although Mathew
7 Higbee was involved in the preparation of the filings at issue, his time was omitted
8 from the final calculation since he was personally named as a counterclaim
9 defendant. Carreon Decl. ¶ 5. Attorney Carreon incurred a total of 27.5 hours
10 working on this matter for a total fee of \$10,450. Carreon Decl. ¶ 10, Exhibit A.
11 Attorney Basria incurred a total of 36.5 hours working on this matter for a total fee of
12 \$13,870. Carreon Decl. ¶ 12, Exhibit B.

13 Thus, H&A seeks a total fee of \$23,320.

14 **IV. CONCLUSION**

15 In conclusion, Counterclaim Defendants Higbee & Associates, APC and
16 Mathew K. Higbee respectfully requests that the Court awarded \$23,320 in attorneys'
17 fees jointly and severally against Ryan L. Isenberg, Isenberg & Hewitt, P.C., Troy L.
18 Issacson, and Maddox, Issacson & Cisneros, LLC.

19
20 Dated: July 19, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

21 /s/ Ryan E. Carreon
22 Ryan E. Carreon, Esq.
23 *Pro Hac Vice*
24 **HIGBEE & ASSOCIATES**
25 3110 W Cheyenne Ave #200,
26 North Las Vegas, NV 89032
27 (714) 617-8373
28 (714) 597-6559 facsimile
rcarreon@higbeeassociates.com

PROOF OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned, say:

I am a citizen of the United States, am over the age of 18 and not a party to the within action. My business address is 3110 W Cheyenne Ave #200, North Las Vegas, NV 89032.

On July 19, 2022 I caused to be served the foregoing documents:

NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION TO FOR ATTORNEY'S FEES BY HIGBEE & ASSOCIATES AND MATHEW K. HIGBEE; DECLARATION OF RYAN E. CARRREON;

X I hereby certify that I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of the Court for the United States District Court, District of Nevada using the CM/ECF system which will send notice of such filing to the following registered CM/ECF users:

Ryan Isenberg ryan@ihlaw.us

Troy L. Isaacson Troy@IsaacsonLawLV.com

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on July 19, 2022 at Wilmington, Delaware.

/s/ Ryan E. Carreon
Ryan E. Carreon